

## AMHERST POLICE DEPARTMENT

Fiscal Year 2005

The Amherst Police Department is committed to providing the citizens we serve with continuously improving police service. In October of 2004, we again attained accreditation from the Massachusetts Police Accreditation Commission, when an assessment team confirmed that the Amherst Police Department met the Commission's state-of-the-art standards. Accreditation is a highly prized recognition of law enforcement professional excellence. In 2000, the Amherst Police Department became the 2<sup>nd</sup> police department in the Commonwealth to be awarded accreditation status, and I am very pleased that we have continued with the high standards that we set for ourselves. We will continue to build upon our professional reputation through training and technology.

During this last year we have worked very hard towards protecting the community and playing our part in assuring that the quality of life for our citizenship only improves. We do not merely respond to the calls for service and quality of life complaints within this town, but constantly ask ourselves how we can do better. We welcome the feedback that we receive from the community and encourage you to continue to help us improve our services to the Town. In an effort to be more accessible to the community, we've re-designed our webpage to offer the public more online services and police-related information. We are very proud of our website; so if you haven't done so, please visit our site at [www.amherstpd.org](http://www.amherstpd.org).

The staffing of the Department has been modified to address the changing needs of the community. The Detective Bureau now has an investigator working on our evening shift and every weekend, while it had traditionally only been so staffed during the day shift. We have found that the clearance rate in the investigation of crimes has improved as a result of this change. We have also re-assigned more personnel to the 7PM to 3AM shift, because we have found that a larger portion of our calls during this shift are *service related*, such as noise complaints, traffic problems, and non-violent family disputes. The day shift is now staffed with an officer who specializes in motorcycle patrol and traffic enforcement, as we have established that our motor vehicle crashes are the most time-consuming activity during the day shift. Education and enforcement of the motor vehicle laws is an important step towards reducing traffic-related injuries. While our calls for service increased from fiscal 2004 to fiscal 2005, our reports of crimes and total arrests decreased substantially, with the largest decreases being in liquor-law offenses. We feel that our persistent enforcement of the drunk-driving and open-container laws has been paying off.

We continue to be dedicated to the principles of community policing and progressive policing in our delivery of service to the Town of Amherst. We value our integrative partnerships with the many private and public community groups where we jointly address the problems and concerns within the Town. Despite budget restrictions throughout our community, we are pleased that the Town of Amherst has worked with us to keep our funding at a level where our services to the community are not adversely affected.

I firmly believe that the greatest asset of the Police Department is its personnel, both the sworn officers and civilian staff. The civilian staff, patrol officers and command staff of your police department recognize that in tight fiscal times it is necessary to be creative in ways to decrease expenses without decreasing services. During the last fiscal year, we were successful in receiving state and federal grants that allowed us to provide the services that you have been

accustomed to. State grants provided funding for many community policing and motor vehicle enforcement programs, and federal grants provided funding to enhance our information technology systems. We will continue to aggressively pursue grant opportunities to weather these difficult fiscal times.

Charles L. Scherpa  
Chief of Police

**POLICE PERSONNEL CHANGES**  
**JULY 2004 – 2005**

**RESIGNATIONS:**

*Sworn Police Officers*

Matthew J. Donah	June 26, 2005
David L. Pinkham	June 26, 2005
Keller W. Williams	June 26, 2005
Jamie J. Magarian	November 1, 2004
Carlos Rivera	November 1, 2004

*Civilian Personnel*

Gail P. Osbourne	April 5, 2005
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**RETIRED:**

None

**NEW HIREES:**

*Sworn Police Officers*

Emile Dulcine	February 28, 2005
Yvonne Molin	February 28, 2005
Megan L. Attesi	November 1, 2004
Felipe Feliciano	November 1, 2004
Derick B. Lamoureux	November 1, 2004

*Civilian Personnel*

Janet B. Smead	March 21, 2005
Maryann C. Rocha	June 27, 2005
William Glover	July 12, 2004

**PROMOTION:**

Brian C. Daly	Promoted to Sergeant	April 7, 2005
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**TERMINATION:**

William J. Koski	September 9, 2004
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**Detective Bureau**  
Fiscal Year 2005

The mission of the Detective Bureau continues to support the patrol force, conduct self-initiated crime control and quality follow-up investigations, and function as a point of contact for other law enforcement agencies. The Detective Bureau also acts as a clearing house for sexual assault records and joint investigations with the Department of Social Services. School-related investigations are initiated from this office as well.

The Detective Bureau is responsible for court-related functions, including case preparation, interaction with both the District Attorney's and the probation office, and case tracking. Detectives routinely perform the necessary background investigations for employee candidates and certain municipal licenses.

The Detective Bureau is under the command of Lieutenant Ronald A. Young, and was staffed by Sergeant Christopher P. Pronovost, Detective Gabriel Ting, Detective Brian T. Johnson, Detective Christina Knightly, Detective David W. Foster, Detective Stephen C. Walsh, and Detective Janet Lopez.

In response to an increase in computer-related crime, Detectives Ting and Walsh have received specialized training and are actively involved in these types of cases, acting as the liaison to the Massachusetts State Police Forensics Unit. Sergeant Pronovost acted as a board member during a year-long study sponsored by the Northwest District Attorney's office, in an effort to combat domestic violence. Detective Foster remains very active with the schools and juvenile issues, working closely with the Department of Youth Services and the Hampshire Juvenile Probation Department.

The case load for investigators was heavy during the last fiscal year. Cases involving the distribution and trafficking of narcotics, firearms violations, assaults, robberies, and burglaries were investigated by detectives. Amherst had its first murder in many years; the offender has been arrested and is awaiting trial. Through this office, a total of 136 people were charged either through arrest, summons, or indictment, for a total of 193 charges.

Ronald A. Young  
Lieutenant

**AMHERST POLICE DEPARTMENT  
ANNUAL POLICE STATISTICS  
FISCAL YEAR 2005**

**POLICE DEPARTMENT ACTIVITY FY 05**  
**TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE AND OFFICERS DISPATCHED**  
**AS RECORDED BY THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATION CENTER**

***TOTAL CALLS 14,747***

***TOTAL OFFICERS DISPATCHED 22,820***

CALL TYPE	#OF CALLS	#OFFICERS	CALL TYPE	#OF CALLS	#OFFICERS
209	100	104	M V Crash P D	927	1,251
209 A Service	225	253	M V Crash P I	93	243
911 Hang Up	226	388	M V Pursuit	4	14
Abandoned M V	3	3	M V Stop	582	912
Admin Duty	98	121	Medical / Mental	76	208
Animal Complaint	373	456	Missing Person	54	80
Annoying Call(s)	45	49	Missing Prop	149	156
Arson / Bomb	1	6	Noise Complaint	902	1,947
Assault	54	121	O U I	139	308
Assist A F D	451	896	Open Door	321	362
Assist Citizen	845	1,173	Parking Ban	80	82
Assist Motorist	2	2	PERMITS	9	11
Assist Other Agency	387	502	Police Tow	6	8
Assist Other P D	167	296	PrisonerTransp	145	176
Assist Other PD	1	2	Priv / Tres Tow	4	4
B & E	113	219	Prop/Evid Admin	88	99
B & E M V	94	111	Protective Custody	9	25
Bank / A T M Alarm	26	52	Rape	7	8
Child Abuse	6	7	Recovered M V	25	30
Citizen Transport	124	129	Recovered Prop.	400	411
Commercial Alarm	605	1,280	Resid. Alarm	246	500
Community Policing	356	408	Robbery	5	24
Disabled MV	2	2	Security Check	502	539
Disturbance	370	972	Sex Offense	12	13
Domestic	179	490	Shoplifting	24	35
Drug Law Violation	75	159	Stolen M V	34	39
Escort	300	422	Summons Service	385	384
Fight	99	335	Suspicious	1,205	1,920
Follow Up	451	515	Suspicious MV	2	2
Forgery / Counterfeit	13	15	T B L Violation	30	45
Fraud	8	8	TBL VIOLATION	1	2
Homicide	1	16	Traffic	1,068	1,344
House Check	75	77	Traffic Monitor	18	19
Larceny	314	361	Trespass	53	72
Liquor I D Check	103	134	Unattended Death	7	41
Liquor Law Violation	113	194	Vandalism	304	368
Located Person	26	33	Warrant Service	153	413
Lock Up Incident	1	1	Well Being Check	200	357
MV Complaint	46	57			

***TOTAL CALLS 14,747***

***TOTAL UNITS DISPATCHED 22,820***

## **PERSONS DETAINED BY THE AMHERST POLICE DEPARTMENT**

### **ADULTS FY 05**

ARRESTED OFFENDERS	717
SUMMONSED PERSONS	263
PROTECTIVE CUSTODY	16

### **JUVENILES FY 05**

ARRESTED JUVENILES	25
SUMMONSED JUVENILES	36
PROTECTIVE CUSTODY	1

## **PRIMARY OFFENSE CHARGED AT TIME OF ARREST**

MURDER AND NON-NEGLIGENT	
MANSLAUGHTER	1
FORCIBLE FONDLING	1
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	21
SIMPLE ASSAULT	85
INTIMIDATION	1
BURGLARY / BREAKING AND ENTERING	32
SHOPLIFTING	8
THEFT FROM BUILDING	2
ALL OTHER LARCENY	32
MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT	1
COUNTERFEITING / FORGERY	1
FALSE PRETENSES / SWINDLE / CO	2
IMPERSONATION	1
STOLEN PROPERTY OFFENSES	11
DESTRUCTION / DAMAGE / VANDALISM	14
DRUG / NARCOTIC VIOLATIONS	108
STATUTORY RAPE	2
WEAPON LAW VIOLATIONS	2
BAD CHECKS	1
DISORDERLY CONDUCT	55
DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE	158
DRUNKENNESS	19
LIQUOR LAW VIOLATIONS	121
TRESPASS OF REAL PROPERTY	9
ALL OTHER OFFENSES	129
TRAFFIC, TOWN BYLAW OFFENSES	241

<b>TOTALS</b>	<hr/> <b>1058</b>
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## **MOTOR VEHICLE CITATIONS FY 05**

ALCOHOL IN MV, POSSESS OPEN CONTAINER OF	17
ARRESTED ON WARRANT INITIATED BY OTHER AGENCY	1
BRAKES VIOLATION, MV	2
CHILD 5-12 WITHOUT SEAT BELT	1
CHILD UNDER 5 WITHOUT CAR SEAT	2
COCAINE, POSSESS TO DISTRIBUTE	1
COCAINE, TRAFFICKING IN	1
CROSSWALK VIOLATION	7
DRUG, POSSESS / CULTIVATE TO DISTRIB CLASS D	3
DRUG, POSSESS CLASS B	5
DRUG, POSSESS CLASS D	30
DRUG, POSSESS CLASS D, SUBSQ.OFF.	5
EMERGENCY VEHICLE, OBSTRUCT	2
EQUIPMENT VIOLATION, MISCELLANEOUS MV	24
FIREWORKS, POSSESS UNLAWFUL	1
IDENTIFY SELF, MV OPERATOR REFUSE	1
INSPECTION/STICKER, NO	170
JUNIOR OPERATOR OP 12-5 AM W/O PARENT	3
JUNIOR OPERATOR WITH PASSENGER UNDER 18	5
KEEP RIGHT FOR ONCOMING MV, FAIL TO	5
KEEP RIGHT ON HILL/OBSTRUCTED VIEW, FL	2
LEAVE SCENE OF PERSONAL INJURY	1
LEAVE SCENE OF PROPERTY DAMAGE	11
LICENSE NOT IN POSSESSION	45
LICENSE RESTRICTION, OPERATE MV IN VIOL	3
LICENSE REVOKED AS HTO, OPERATE MV WITH	5
LICENSE REVOKED, OPERATE MV WITH	18
LICENSE SUSPENDED FOR OUI, OPER MV WITH	1
LICENSE SUSPENDED, OP MV WITH	94
LICENSE SUSPENDED, OP MV WITH, SUBSQ.OFF	8
LIGHTS VIOLATION	1
LIGHTS VIOLATION, MV	59
LIQUOR, PERSON UNDER 21 POSSESS	13
MARKED LANES VIOLATION	131
MOTORCYCLE EQUIPMENT VIOLATION	1
NAME/ADDRESS CHANGE, FL NOTIFY RMV OF	3
NUMBER PLATE VIOLATION	35
NUMBER PLATE VIOLATION TO CONCEAL ID	7
NUMBER PLATE, FALSE APPLIC FOR DEALER	1
NUMBER PLATE, MISUSE DEALER/REPAIR	1
OPERATING AFTER REVOCATION OF REGISTRATION	26
OPERATION OF MOTOR VEHICLE, IMPROPER	4
OUI DRUGS	2
OUI LIQUOR	142



OUI LIQUOR, 2ND OFFENSE	21
OUI LIQUOR, 3RD OFFENSE	2
OUI LIQUOR, 5TH OFFENSE	1
PASSING VIOLATION	8
PEDESTRIAN VIOLATION	1
POLLUTANT CONTROL DEVICE, REMOVE	2
RECKLESS OPERATION OF MOTOR VEHICLE	2
REGISTRATION NOT IN POSSESSION	19
REGISTRATION SUSPENDED, OP MV WITH	37
RIGHT LANE, FAIL DRIVE IN	4
RIGHT TURN ON RED WHERE PROHIBITED	22
SAFETY STANDARDS, MV NOT MEETING RMV	20
SCHOOL BUS, FAIL STOP FOR	2
SEAT BELT, FAIL WEAR	140
SIGNAL, FAIL TO	4
SPEEDING	133
SPEEDING IN VIOL SPECIAL REGULATION	201
STATE HWAY TRAFFIC VIOLATION	10
STOP FOR POLICE, FAIL	3
STOP/YIELD, FAIL TO	121
TBL A2 S3: OBSTRUCT VEH / PED TRAFFIC / WAY	1
TBL A2 S4: OPERATE MV ON SIDEWALK	2
TBL A5 S1: ONE WAY STREET VIOLATION	3
TBL A7 S3: OBSTRUCT NORMAL TRAFFIC FLOW	1
TBL A7 S4: FAIL TO USE CARE/BACKING	6
TBL A7 S4: FAIL TO USE CARE/STARTING	11
TBL A7 S4: FAIL TO USE CARE/STOPPING	34
TBL A7 S4: FAIL TO USE CARE/TURNING	33
TBL A7 S5: FAIL TO STOP/FLASHING RED LIGHT	5
TBL A7 S5: FAIL TO STOP/STOP SIGN	4
TBL A7 S6: FAILURE TO OBEY TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICE	1
TBL A7 S6: RED LIGHT VIOLATION	18
TRASH, LITTER FROM MV	3
TURN, IMPROPER	8
UNINSURED MOTOR VEHICLE	19
UNLICENSED OPERATION OF MV	48
UNREGISTERED MOTOR VEHICLE	69
UNSAFE OPERATION OF MV	13
USE MV WITHOUT AUTHORITY	2
WINDOW OBSTRUCTED/NONTRANSPARENT	1
YIELD AT INTERSECTION, FAIL	16
WRITTEN WARNINGS	<u>4,270</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,228</b>

**MOTOR VEHICLE CRASHES FY 05**

MV CRASH REPORTED IN PERSON OR BY MAIL	572
MV CRASH INVESTIGATED REQUIRING POLICE REPORTS	858
MV CRASH WITH CITATIONS ISSUED	239
MV CRASH TOTAL CITATIONS ISSUED	294
MV CRASH WITH PERSONAL INJURY	92
MV CRASH TOTAL INJURED PERSONS	125
MV CRASH INVOLVING PEDESTRIANS	5
MV CRASH INVOLVING BICYCLES	6
MV CRASH INVOLVING MOTORCYCLES	4
MV CRASH INVOLVING WHEELCHAIRS	0
MV CRASH WITH FATALITIES	0
MV CRASH / HIT AND RUN	112